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Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Denisa **Hutanova** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 108 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in documents A/59/448 and Add.1-3.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 50th, 52nd, 53rd, 54th and 57th meetings, on 9, 16, 20, 23 May and 8 June 2005. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the question are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/59/SR.50, 52-54 and 57).

3. For its consideration of the question, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council: Expansion of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and the Special Court for Sierra Leone (A/59/534/Add.4);

(b) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/59/569/Add.4);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations: standardized access control (A/59/776);

(d) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/59/785);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the plans for three additional conference rooms and viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms (A/58/556);

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(f) Report of the Secretary-General on viable options for ensuring sufficient parking space at United Nations Headquarters (A/58/712);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of possible funding arrangements for the capital master plan (A/58/729);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the city and State of New York related to the capital master plan (A/58/779);

(i) Second annual report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the capital master plan (A/59/441 and Add.1-2);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of Auditors on the capital master plan for the biennium ended 31 December 2003 (A/59/161);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the United Nations capital master plan for the period from August 2003 through July 2004 (A/59/420);

(l) Related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the capital master plan (A/59/556 and A/C.5/59/SR.53).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.71

4. At its 57th meeting, on 8 June 2005, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Special subjects and questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005" (A/C.5/59/L.71), containing sections I and II. Section I, entitled "Strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations: standardized access control", was submitted by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations, and section II, entitled "Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council", was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations and was coordinated by the representative of Finland.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.71 without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.74

6. Also at its 57th meeting, on 8 June 2005, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Capital master plan" (A/C.5/59/L.74), which was submitted by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/59/L.74 without a vote (see para. 8, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Special subjects and questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005

The General Assembly,

I. Strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations: standardized access control

Recalling paragraph 44 of section XI of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations: standardized access control"[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[1] and endorses the observations and recommendation contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

II. Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004 and section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[4] concerning the requests of the Secretary-General for additional funding relating to the expansion of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and for the subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[4] concerning the requests of the Secretary-General for additional funding relating to the expansion of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and for the subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone;

2. *Endorses* the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report,[4] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[1] A/59/776.
[2] A/59/785.
[3] A/59/534/Add.4.
[4] A/59/569/Add.4.

3. *Decides* to appropriate under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 an amount of 24,171,700 United States dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for 2004-2005 for the United Nations Political Office for Somalia and for the subvention to the Special Court for Sierra Leone;

4. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 377,200 dollars under section 34, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for 2004-2005;

5. *Notes* that the requirements arising under the regular budget in connection with the expansion of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia are estimated at 4,171,700 dollars net (4,548,900 dollars gross), after taking into account the unencumbered balance amounting to 845,700 dollars against the existing appropriation;

6. *Approves* the budget for the United Nations Political Office for Somalia in the amount of 5,017,400 dollars net (5,394,600 dollars gross) for the period from 1 June to 31 December 2005;

7. *Notes* the financial position of the Special Court for Sierra Leone as described in the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

8. *Also notes* the request of the Secretary-General for an additional subvention of 13 million dollars to supplement the financial resources of the Court for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2005;

9. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 13 million dollars to supplement the financial resources of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2005, under special political missions in section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, on the understanding that any regular budget funds appropriated for the Court would be refunded to the United Nations at the time of liquidation of the Court should sufficient voluntary contributions be received;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide relevant information regarding the utilization of funds appropriated from the regular budget for the Court in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Member States informed, as appropriate, about the completion strategy of the Special Court for Sierra Leone;

12. *Appeals* to Member States, as a matter of urgency, to contribute voluntary funds in support of the Court;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in concert with the Management Committee of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, to redouble efforts to raise voluntary contributions to support the work of the Court, and to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on progress made;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in concert with the Registrar of the Special Court for Sierra Leone, to take fully into account the intentions of donors concerning their voluntary contributions without prejudice to the provisions of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II
Capital master plan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, section II of its resolution 57/292 of 20 December 2002 and its decision 58/566 of 8 April 2004,

1. *Decides* to convert 17,802,000 United States dollars of the existing commitment authority into an appropriation with assessment for the year 2005 and to renew the existing commitment authority for the balance of 8,198,000 dollars for the year 2006 so as to provide for the continuation of design work and related project management and management of pre-construction services for the baseline scope and scope options of the capital master plan;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the main part of its sixtieth session on all aspects of the capital master plan, including:

(a) Current estimate of costs and time line for implementation of the capital master plan;

(b) Viable options for swing space during construction, including the costs of all such options;

(c) The status of UNDC-5;

(d) An assessment on the viability of constructing a permanent building on the North Lawn of the premises of United Nations Headquarters to be used as a swing and/or consolidation space;

(e) The range of financing options for the capital master plan and overall cost and full analysis of such options, taking into account that direct assessment would be the simplest and cheapest option for meeting the costs of the capital master plan, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General[1] and the oral report by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

(f) The progress of design and pre-construction work;

(g) Proposals on a working reserve fund;

3. *Decides* to revert to the issue of the capital master plan before the end of June 2005, including the relevant proposals contained in paragraph 39 of the report of the Secretary-General, not addressed in the present resolution, pertaining to the offer of the host country on an interest-bearing loan for the capital master plan.

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[1] A/59/441/Add.1.

[2] A/C.5/59/SR.54.